

Consistent, Torrid Play Carries Eugene to State Cage Diadem

Moran, Tuttle, Kingpins In 72 to 56 Triumph Over Medford in Saturday Final

By DICK JEWETT
Mail Tribune Sports Editor

McArthur Court, University of Oregon, Eugene—Eugene's Axemen, brilliant, torrid and most consistent aggregation in five days of spirited contention, wore the Oregon Class A high school basketball crown today after two previous consecutive years of "knocking-at-the-door" frustration.

Spurred on by skyscraping Mike Moran and rugged Leighton Tuttle, Eugene, runner-up both in 1953 and 1954, couldn't be denied this time. Rolling up the highest title game history, the Axemen shook off a game but futile challenge to defeat the Medford high Black Tornado 72 to 56 here Saturday night in the finale of the Oregon prep cage classic.

Victory in this rubber game between two top teams in pre-tournament ratings was Eugene's 24th in 28 games this year. Medford in defeat suffered only its second loss in 23 conflicts. The Axemen stopped after 25 straight a Tornado winning streak which started in December with a 51 to 50 nod over the newly crowned champs. Eugene had won the December night before 58 to 50. **Terrific Combination**

It was the terrific combination of Moran altitude and Tuttle ruggedness and the sparkling play of both which ruined Medford ambitions for its first state championship since 1929.

Moran, 6-8, fed accurately over the heads of the Medford defenders, scored jumpers under the basket or lay-ups time and again to break the hopes and the hearts of the Medfordites. The tall Axeman, who got every advantage, almost, in officiating during the tourney could not be stopped effectively without fouling by the Medford crew. He rolled in 33 points, tying with Don Stamps, Albany, for the tourney single game high, and had 13 rebounds.

Tuttle shone only slightly less so. Hitting from the corners and other angles he rolled in 18 points and he was king of the backboards with 21 retrieves.

Medford played some of its best basketball of the tourney during the first half when it looked like the blazing Tornado which cleaned up in southern Oregon. But, over the route, the Eugene club slowed the Medford running attack and hit more accurately from the field.

Copple Watched Closely

The Axemen also kept an eagle eye and close guard on Medford's high scoring Larry Copple. The limber guard managed four field goals in 15 casts and had 10 free shots to tie with Tuttle's 18 for second high of the game. Copple also paced the Tornado by getting 10 rebounds. Bud Kastner was next with seven.

Eugene which tallied from the field with .541, .518 and .453 averages in pre-final frays, hit .429 in the championship tussle while Medford tabulated a .300 even mark. The Axemen had control of the boards, 51 to 32.

The Tornado outshot Eugene at the free lane with 26 out of 36 to the Axemen's 24 out of 45.

Medford lost one of its tall boys, Jerry Kalapus, on fouls in the third quarter while Kastner was retired the same way in the fourth. Bud Kykendall, Larry Hughes and Tuttle were banished for the Axemen.

Loss of Kalapus was the most damaging blow to Medford hopes. He and Glenn Peterson, Medford's tallest men, had been two-timing the giant Moran.

Kalapus charged with his third infraction in the first minute of the second quarter. He was removed to be saved for the second half. Moran and his mates took full advantage of the Medford center's absence to go on top for good. The Axemen fed Moran for three quick buckets and he got another tip in during the quarter to enable the champs to pull away.

When Medford's Jerry went out in the third Medford lost for keeps adequate height for defensive and offensive strength under the boards.

Medford Fought Hard

Medford's Tornado crew fought hard and with spirit all the way and didn't let up or give up even at the widest Axemen advantage. Eugene had to battle furiously to finally take command, rallying after the Tornado got the jump then emerging from a see-saw struggle which went on for almost all of the first two quarters. When the half-time buzzer sounded Medford was still definitely in contention.

Leadership switched seven times and there were two deadlocks in that portion of the tangle.

Medford went on top 6 to 0 at the start when Copple bucketed from the key. Kalapus sank a lay-up on Frank Rector's assist and Copple added two free goals. Then the Moran-Tuttle punch started clicking. Moran on a pass from Hughes laid in

a two-pointer. Tuttle connected from the side. Moran got a free point then on a feed by Pete King sank a close in jumper. Eugene was ahead 7 to 6.

Glenn Peterson, faking Moran out of the way smartly, got a jumper from the side for 8 to 7. Medford. Hughes knotted the score with a charity throw. Then Eugene took the lead 11 to 8 when Moran got a free throw and tipped in a rebound. First Copple and next Kalapus, on an assist by Kastner, got driving lay-ups for a 12 to 11 Medford edge at the end of the quarter. **Medford Heads 14-11**

Kalapus made it 14 to 11. Medford, as the second period started, shooting two from the foul line. Moran, fed by King, scored jumpers in close to put the Axemen in front 15 to 14. Rector came through with a jumper and it was 16 to 15 for the Tornado. But Moran got a closey for 17 to 16 Eugene. The Axemen never fell behind after that but the Tornado tied up the fray once more.

Eugene Goes on Top

With Moran briefly on the sideline, Tuttle and Kykendall got field baskets and Tuttle a free marker for Eugene as Peterson, assisted by Copple and Kastner, pumping back a rebound, both scored. Foust hit two free shots to deadlock the action at 22-22.

The lofty Moran, in the meantime had returned to the floor. With 2:14 minutes remaining in the half he whacked in a tip-in. That made it 24 to 22 and Eugene was on top for good. Tuttle flicked the hemp on a rebound, Moran got a gift toss and Tuttle two and the Axemen were ahead 29 to 22. Two free baskets by Foust and a 25-foot set shot by Kykendall made the 31 to 24 halftime standing.

As the second half began Eugene got eight points before Medford could score for 39 to 26 and stronger control. Copple hit once from the field and twice from the free line to slim the disadvantage to 28 to 39. Copple shoved in another fielder from 25 feet distance but Moran had picked up three points and Hughes two for 44 to 30 for Eugene.

Kalapus Leaves Game

The Axeman's Paul Bunyan goaled on Kalapus' final infraction and added the free shot that made the score 47 to 30. Peterson hit a close in bucket for Medford but Tuttle came back with a long jumper and Moran a tip-in for 51 to 32, a 19-point margin which proved too much for Medford to overcome.

Two free heaves by Copple and four by Peterson, while Moran plunked a rebounder, cut the distance to 15 markers, 53 to 38. The bulge went up to 18, however, 58 to 40, when Tuttle got a field shot and three gifters while Bud Kastner was picking up a fielder for Medford. The third quarter concluded with 17 points difference, 59 to 42 when Kastner got two free baskets and Bud Kykendall added a singleton for Eugene.

Brightens Briefly

Moran's tip in of a rebound put Eugene's lead again at 19, with 6:12 to go. But Medford hopes brightened as the Axemen's margin started to slip away. Copple, Ed McCullough and Frank Rector all duelled at the free stripe for the Tornado and Pete King collected a lone marker for Eugene. That made the score 62 to 48.

In the meantime Medford had lost its fine rebounder, Kastner, by the foul route. The Axeman's burly Tuttle followed him shortly. Copple pushed in two Medford free shots on Tuttle's last infraction. That made it 62 to 50 with 3:14 minutes to play. But Medford didn't come any closer.

King and Bob Anderson got gift points for Eugene and they were matched by Peterson's driving lay-in for the Tornado and it was 64 to 52. A lay-up by Johnny Foust and two free heaves by Rector completed the Medford scoring while Moran and Anderson swished from the field and Don Lawrence and King got pairs at the foul line for Eugene.

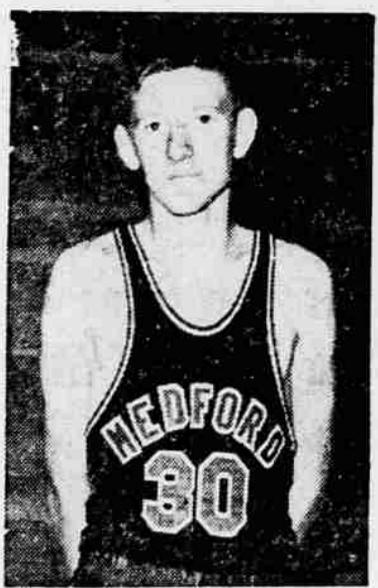
The 128 points total score was another tourney final game record.

Cleveland high of Portland edged out Central Catholic 47-46 in a thrilling overtime duel to take third place in the state standings. Cleveland center Hugh Springer sank a field goal with only one second left to put his team over the top.

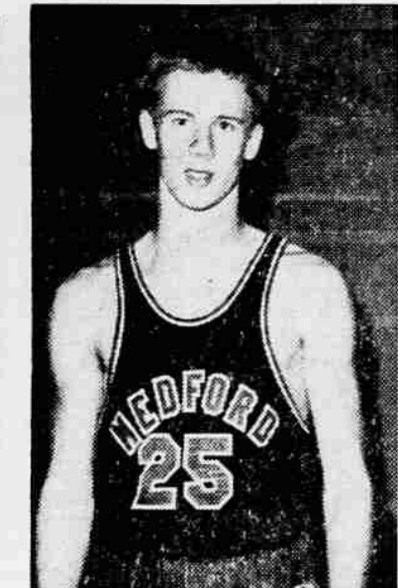
Earlier Saturday Albany high rode over St. Helens, 62-29, with a smashing attack that gave them fourth place and Milwaukee drubbed Baker 58-38 to put last year's state champions in fifth place.

	FG	FT	PF	TP
Eugene	6	5	3	18
Tuttle, f	1	1	3	3
Hughes, f	1	1	3	3
Moran, c	13	7	3	35
Kykendall, g	3	1	3	7
King, g	0	6	3	6
Powell, c	0	0	0	0

SPORTS



TORNADO ALL-STATERS—Larry Copple, Medford above, impressed high school coaches tremendously at the Oregon Class A high school basketball tournament at Eugene last week and was honored by being named a guard on the all-state first team. Medford lost to Eugene 72 to 56 in the Saturday final game.



MAKES SECOND TEAM—Frank Rector, above, standout guard on Medford high's 1955 state runner-up class A basketball team was named to the second all-state team Saturday night following the state tourney at Eugene, on Saturday.

Baseball Briefs

Mesa, Ariz.—(U.P.)—The Los Angeles Angels faced the Chicago Cubs yesterday and were held to two hits as they went down 7-0 before a pitching exhibition by ace hurlers Bubba Church and Hal Jeffcoat.

BEAVERS WIN TWO

Glendale, Calif.—(U.P.)—Portland Beavers chalked up wins over Fort Ord and the semi-pro Glendale Pirates here in weekend exhibition games. The Beavers B team took advantage of four errors and eight walks yesterday to outlast the Pirates, 12-10. Granny Gladston homered with one on in the fourth for Portland. Fort Ord kept the Beavers hopping Saturday and forced the Portlanders to come from behind to win the 8:17 contest.

PADRES VICTORS

San Diego, Calif.—(U.P.)—The San Diego Padres, last year's PCL pennant winners, defeated the Hollywood Stars for the third time in the series yesterday, 10-8, although the visitors at one time held a four run advantage.

PORTLAND TOPS STARS

Anaheim, Calif.—(U.P.)—The Portland Beavers defeated the Hollywood Stars B team 8-1 yesterday with home runs by Ron Jackson and Don Eggert climaxing the day's hitting. Portland collected 12 hits to Hollywood's nine in taking the decisive win.

Baseball

Phila. (N)001 000 000 1 1 1
Pitts. "B" (N)010 000 01x 2 7 1
Roberts, Wehmer 6 and Burgess, Littlefield, Surkont, 6 and Sherrard
Winning pitcher—Surkont. Losing pitcher—Wehmer.

Bos. "B" (A)020 0 000 8 8 1
Milw. "B" (N)010 051 000 7 6 2
Ereuer, Cleveland 5, Smith 8 and Buck, Nichols, Roland 4, Straigier 6, Trovbridge 6. Winning pitcher—Cleveland. Losing pitcher—Straigier.

Detroit (A)000 000 030 3 4 1
Boston (A)123 010 30x 10 15 1
Maas, Froats 3, Fletcher 6, Sharkey 8 and Wilson, Streuli 6, Sullivan, Farrell 6, Hurd 9 and Daley. Winning pitcher—Sullivan. Losing pitcher—Maas.

Milwaukee (N)002 020 010 5 7 0
St. Louis (N)400 000 000 4 11 0
Burdette, Wilson 5 and Crandall, Miller, Precko 5, Schultz 7 and Rice. Winning pitcher—Wilson. Losing pitcher—Schultz.

Kan. City (A)000 002 100 3 9 0
Baltimore (A)100 010 000 2 7 0
Wheat, Burtch 5 and Astroth, McDonald, Rogovin 6 and Moss. Winning pitcher—Burtch. Losing pitcher—Rogovin.

Cincinnati (N)010 000 114 7 9 0
Chicago (A)010 010 010 3 10 0
Fowler, Pearce 6, Scantlebury 6 and Seminick, Trucks, Chakles 6, Brazie 9 and Courtney. Winning pitcher—Pearce. Losing pitcher—Chakles.

Pitts. (N) 100 000 010 000 3 4 12 3
Wash. (A) 000 020 000 000 2 4 0
Kline, King 8, Garber 10 and Atwell, Pascual, Hyde 8, Ramos 11 and Edwards. Winning pitcher—Garber. Losing pitcher—Ramos.

L.A. (PCL)000 000 000 0 2 1
Chicago (N)041 200 00x 7 12 1
Droit, McLish 5, Lown 7 and Rivich, Church, Jeffcoat 6 and Tappe. Winning pitcher—Church. Losing pitcher—Droit.

N.Y. (A)000 102 302 0 8 10 3
Bklyn. (N)001 000 010 1 9 13 3
Grim, Byrne 6, Konstanty 7, Russell 8 and Berberet, Howard 6, Eskine, Negray 4, Hughes 7, LaSorda 8, Black 9 and Walker, Campanella 8. Winning pitcher—Black. Losing pitcher—Russell.

New York (A) 110 000 500 7 8 0
Cleveland (A)000 000 003 3 8 2
Antonelli, James 6 and Westrum, Feller, Aguirre 4, Garcia 7 and Naragon. Winning pitcher—Antonelli. Losing pitcher—Feller.

Myers, f0 0 1 0
Lawrence, c0 2 0 0 2
Anderson, g0 0 3 0 3
Olson, g0 0 0 0 0
24 24 25 72

	FG	FT	PF	TP
Medford	2	2	3	12
Kastner, f	2	2	3	12
Kalapus, c	2	2	5	6
Rector, f	4	10	3	16
Copple, g	4	10	3	16
Foust, f	1	4	1	6
Tuttle, f	1	4	1	6
McLaughlin, c	0	0	0	0
McCullough, g	0	2	4	2
Tisdell, g	0	0	0	0
15	26	27	56	

Bill Russell Winner of NCAA Trophy

By BILL ROSENTRER
Kansas City, Mo.—(U.P.)—Six-ten Bill Russell, who led San Francisco to the NCAA basketball championship by outplaying "Player of the Year" Gola, bested Gola again today by winning the tournament's "most valuable player" trophy.

Russell outscored Gola, 23-16, as San Francisco beat defending champion La Salle rather easily 77-63 in Saturday night's final round.

Both Russell and Gola were unanimous choices on the all-tournament team named to the honor squad were Carl Cain of Iowa, K. C. Jones of San Francisco and Jim Rangles of Colorado.

Jones actually won scoring honors in the championship game with 24 points.

Coach Phil Woolpert of the new champions had high praise for all his men, particularly Russell and Jones, and he gave special credit to the Dons' defense—the best in the nation, according to official statistics.

"Defense won it for us," said Woolpert. "That was the difference in the game. We were up against a great shooting team, but our defense and hustle beat them."

Russell had a simple explanation for the triumph, the Dons' first in a national tournament since they won the 1949 National Invitation tournament. Russell said "I am playing on the best team in the world and we just beat the best team we ever played."



ENTERED IN OREGON OPEN—Harvey Hixson, left, and Eddie Simmons, shown during the Oregon Golf association meet here last year, will be among entries this week in the Oregon Open Golf tourney at Rogue Valley Country club. Simmons, Medford, won the OGA event. Hixson, now a pro at Laurelwood club, Eugene, was runner-up. The Open will begin on Friday, March 25, and will run through Sunday. A pro-amateur event is set for Thursday.

Red Wings Grab Hockey Mantle

Detroit —(U.P.)—The Detroit Red Wings have the National Hockey League championship for the seventh straight year and goalie Terry Sawchuk owned the Vezina Trophy today.

Capt. Ted Lindsay, back in the Detroit lineup after a three-game absence, triggered three goals Sunday night to lead the Red Wings to a 6-0 rout of the Canadiens and hand Detroit the title by a margin of two points over Montreal.

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Hockey League's Extra To Start

By UNITED PRESS
The American Hockey league's Calder Cup playoffs get underway at Pittsburgh and Cleveland Tuesday night with Pittsburgh pitted against the Springfield Indians and Cleveland matched with the Buffalo Bisons.

In Sunday's wrapup games, the Indians, downed the Hornets, 7-1, and the Hershey Bears defeated the Providence Reds, 4-3, in overtime.

Cleveland, Buffalo and Springfield wound up in a tie for second place with 67 points each, but Cleveland was awarded second place because of its greater goal production. Buffalo placed fourth. Hershey wound up fifth while the Reds were last.

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